

# Assembly on Nursing (NUR) Newsletter



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## Message from the Assembly Chair

It has been a pleasure representing the Nursing Assembly in ATS activities and governance. While this has been a trying time for all assembly members (changes in US federal funding, changes in types of students in nursing schools, etc.) Yet the assembly is strong. The assembly is well represented in a number ATS committees and task forces. As you will see in the assembly committee reports contained in this newsletter, you can feel proud of all the work members of the assembly have done. Also, in the past couple of years, we have had members receive society awards (Sharron J. Crowder, Martha A.Q. Curley, and Susan Jacobs). This year is no exception. Lynn Reinke will receive the J. Randall Curtis Humanism Award at this year's conference. The award "recognizes and celebrates individuals whose work reflects the ideas expressed by Dr. Curtis". From the nomination, Lynn was described as an ideal candidate for this award as a mentee of the late Dr. Randy Curtiss and as a professional who exemplifies the values and humanism that Dr. Curtiss fostered in all his work. Lynn carries forward his legacy with deep compassion and unwavering commitment to patient-centered care. Her research and scholarly work are rooted in what matters most to people during their most vulnerable moments—Can they breathe comfortably? Are they in pain? And, most importantly, what can we, as practitioners, do to ease their suffering? Lynn's dedication to improving palliative care reflects Randy's core values and his lifelong mission. In every aspect of her work, Lynn is giving back in his image, advancing the field with both empathy and excellence. Per one of her nominators, "Lynn has amplified the voice of all nurses, to which Randy always encouraged us to listen." If you will be attending the conference, please go to the awards ceremony to support Lynn.

Finally, the first assembly member has been elected to the Board of Directors (Kathy Lindell).

I encourage you to become active in the assembly if you are not already. You will find support, important work, and, finally, the chance to meet colleagues from across the world. I know the assembly will be in great hands under the leadership of Jennifer Seaman.

Our annual assembly meeting will be on Sunday, May 17<sup>th</sup>, starting at 5:00 PM, with the location to be determined

Sincerely,  
Margaret

**Membership Meeting**  
**Sunday, May 17, 2026**  
**5:00 pm - 7:00 pm**  
**Orange County Convention Center (Level III, West Concourse)**  
**Lecture Hall W300,**

## Message from the Incoming Assembly Chair

Jennifer B. Seaman, PhD, RN, CHPN, ATS-F (Incoming Assembly Chair)

Hi! I'm Jennifer Seaman, chair-elect of the Nursing Assembly. I'm an Assistant Professor in the School of Nursing at the University of Pittsburgh. My clinical background is in critical care nursing, and my research focuses on clinician-family communication in ICU and the advancement of primary palliative care. I was first introduced to ATS in 2015 as a postdoctoral scholar at Pitt. I was immediately impressed with the warm welcome I received from the Nursing Assembly and the invitations to become meaningfully involved in the Nursing Assembly and the larger ATS community. Since joining the Nursing Assembly, I have had the opportunity to serve in multiple committees and leadership roles. In addition, I have received generous funding for my research through the ATS Foundation. Together, these have enabled me to grow as a leader and clinician scientist. I'm extremely grateful for the many ways the ATS has contributed to my professional growth, and I'm proud to call the ATS my professional home. I'm excited to have been inducted this year as a Fellow of the ATS (ATS-F), and I look forward to the upcoming year with the Nursing Assembly.

## Program Committee

Tammy L. Eaton, PhD, MSc, RN, FNP-BC, ACHPN, FCCM, (Chair) and Deena Costa, PhD, RN, (Chair-elect)

The nursing assembly is well represented in the upcoming 2026 International Conference. The assembly has two scientific symposiums programmed: *Advancing Healthcare Quality through workforce equity* and *Redefining care: Strategies for effective patient-centered management across the continuum in serious respiratory illness*. Our Nursing Year in Review (NYIR) will be: *Navigating care transitions in pulmonary, critical care and sleep*. A mini symposium titled: *Diverse methodological approaches: addressing complex questions in pulmonary, critical care, and nursing research*, has also been programmed. Finally, the nursing assembly is a co-sponsor on the following Scientific Symposia: *Illness & Identity: Systemic oppression & ethics of care*, *Words matter: The power of language in shaping critical care*, *Pulmonary Rehabilitation in non-COPD patients: updates on the evidence, clinical indications and physiology*, *Advancing Hypoxemia assessment and oxygen access: US and international perspectives*, *Primary palliative care in pulmonary-critical care medicine: a "Pallipulm" framework for education, practice and policy*, and *The science of palliative care in the ICU: High hopes, mixed results*.

Please check the program guide for the most up-to-date times and locations for these symposia and thematic posters.

ATS 2026 International Conference Assembly on Nursing (NUR) Sessions				
Session Code	Session Title	Session Type	Session Date	Session Time
A11	ADVANCING HEALTHCARE QUALITY THROUGH WORKFORCE EQUITY	Scientific Symposium	5/17/2026	9:15 AM - 10:45 AM
A89	REDEFINING CARE: STRATEGIES FOR EFFECTIVE PATIENT-CENTERED MANAGEMENT ACROSS THE CONTINUUM IN SERIOUS RESPIRATORY ILLNESS	Scientific Symposium	5/17/2026	2:15 PM - 3:45 PM
B27	BREATH OF FRESH AIR: JOURNEY FROM DIAGNOSIS TO RECOVERY IN PULMONARY AND CRITICAL CARE	Poster Discussion Session	5/18/2026	9:15 AM - 11:15 AM
B59	RECENT INNOVATIONS IN PULMONARY AND CRITICAL CARE DISEASE MANAGEMENT	Thematic Poster Session	5/18/2026	9:15 AM - 4:15 PM
B81	NURSING YEAR IN REVIEW: NAVIGATING CARE TRANSITIONS IN PULMONARY, CRITICAL CARE, AND SLEEP	Year in Review	5/18/2026	2:15 PM - 3:45 PM
C17	DIVERSE METHODOLOGICAL APPROACHES: ADDRESSING COMPLEX QUESTIONS IN PULMONARY, CRITICAL CARE, AND NURSING RESEARCH	Mini Symposium	5/19/2026	9:15 AM - 11:15 AM

## Planning Committee

Tierney Keeton-Tucker (Fisher), DNP, CRNP (Chair) & Jonna L. Morris, PhD, RN (Co-Chair)

Colleagues,

The planning committee continues to work collaboratively to develop strategies to support the goals and objectives of the Nursing Assembly. A key focus remains supporting ATS project proposals. While there were no new ATS-sponsored Nursing Assembly projects over the last year, we strongly encourage members to share ideas or reach out with questions. We are happy to assist with connecting you to Assembly members who have previously completed ATS-sponsored projects. Additional guidance is available through the Assembly/Committee Project Application Resource Center.

<https://site.thoracic.org/membership/assemblies-sections/about-the-assemblies/assembly-committee-project-application-resource-center>

We are also dedicated to increasing recognition of nursing at ATS by nominating members of the Nursing Assembly for ATS Respiratory Health Awards. At the 2025 conference, the ATS Public Service Award was presented to Susan Jacobs, RN, MS. As we stated in the nomination: "Susan is an advocate for the equitable access of supplemental oxygen for patients with lung diseases, ultimately translating to all who require supplemental oxygen. Her tireless efforts have contributed to our knowledge regarding oxygen therapy, has led the clinical guidelines in this area, and directly impacted policy (i.e., SOAR act) to change how supplemental oxygen is addressed in the United States."

This fall, nominations were submitted for the ATS Outstanding Educator Award and the Elizabeth A. Rich, MD Award. The Assembly Awards nomination period has recently concluded. While the nominations for the current cycle have closed, please feel free to reach out with questions about the application process to prepare for future cycles. Congratulations to all the nominees. For more information the Assembly Awards (Nursing Mentorship Award and The Early Career Achievement Award) see the links below for previous winners, nomination details, and scoring metrics.

[American Thoracic Society | Assembly on Nursing Early Career...](#)  
[American Thoracic Society | Assembly on Nursing Mentorship Award](#)

The Assembly/Committee Project applications for FY 2027 open July 1 and will be available on the ATS website. We encourage you to consider submitting an application.

### Assembly/Committee Project Applications for FY2027

**Assembly members interested in submitting a Project application should start developing their ideas. Applications for NEW Assembly Projects for 2027 will be accepted July 1 through July 31, 2027.**

**If you have an idea or suggestion for a project application and need assistance, please contact your Assembly Planning Committee Chair, Tierney Fisher, DNP, APN at [tier.alexandra@gmail.com](mailto:tier.alexandra@gmail.com)**

For questions regarding submissions please contact  
Miriam Rodriguez - [mrodriguez@thoracic.org](mailto:mrodriguez@thoracic.org)

## Web Committee

Heidi L. Lindroth, PhD, RN (Web Director) & Jun Yeong Byun, PhD, MSN (Member)

Over the past year, the Nursing Assembly Web Committee launched a *Member Spotlight* initiative to highlight members' work and foster opportunities to learn about one another, supporting communication and potential collaboration across the Assembly. These spotlights are shared on the ATS Nursing Assembly LinkedIn Group Page (<https://www.linkedin.com/groups/13096270/>), join us today!

In parallel, the committee maintained the Assembly website to ensure content remains current, accurate, and accessible to members.

In the coming year, the Web Committee plans to introduce an *Achievement Showcase* to celebrate member accomplishments and further elevate the visibility of Nursing Assembly activities across online platforms. If you have a career milestone, award, or publication to highlight, please contact either Heidi Lindroth (lindroth.heidi@mayo.edu) or Jun Yeong Byun ([junbyun@uab.edu](mailto:junbyun@uab.edu)).

### **Nursing Assembly Early Career Working Group Opportunities & Updates**

The Nursing Assembly Early Career Working Group has been very active in recruiting members both for the assembly apprenticeship program and mentoring program. While the deadlines have passed for this year, please still reach out if you are interested in any of the programs! Click on the link to learn more about each program. We are always eager to hear ideas and suggestions for activities, initiatives, or collaborations for the Nursing Assembly Early Career Working Group. If you have ideas or would like to get involved, please reach out to Binnie You ([hyunbin.you@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:hyunbin.you@vanderbilt.edu)), Chair, or Kelly Toth ([kelly.potter@pitt.edu](mailto:kelly.potter@pitt.edu)), Co-Chair.

We encourage all members—especially trainees and early-career professionals—to take advantage of these opportunities and stay engaged with the Nursing Assembly community!!

[Click here for more details on Nursing Assembly Apprenticeship Program.](#)  
[Click here for more details on Nursing Assembly Mentoring Program](#)

Find all of The Assembly's social media channels in one place — just one click away via Linktree:  
[https://linktr.ee/ats\\_nur\\_assembly?utm\\_source=qr\\_code](https://linktr.ee/ats_nur_assembly?utm_source=qr_code)  
 Linktree is a simple landing page that holds all our important links so you can easily connect with everything we do.  
 You can also scan the QR code to access it instantly



Be sure to follow us at @ATS\_Assemblies for news on webinars, deadlines, and other things you might have missed in your inbox!

## Ph.D. and Basic and Translational Scientist Working Group

Kelly Potter, PhD, RN, MSN, CNE (Representative)

The PhD and Basic and Translational Scientist Working Group (PBTS WG), housed within the Assembly on RSF, has been active since 2019 and is led by co-chairs Jarrod Barnes, PhD, ATSF and Claudia Staab-Weijnitz, PhD, ATSF, with support from immediate past co-chair Richard Johnston, PhD, ATSF. The group includes liaisons from all fourteen ATS Assemblies and meets monthly to advance its mission: advocating for science and discovery by promoting basic and translational research across ATS, while enhancing the value of ATS membership for PhD scientists.

Over the past year, PBTS WG member-led subcommittees drove several initiatives, including submitting or sponsoring 11 proposals for the 2026 International Conference—six of which were accepted as scientific symposia and a meet-the-expert seminar. The Communications Subcommittee maintained the PBTS WG webpage and is working to launch a LinkedIn community (NERRD: Network for Respiratory Research and Discovery). The Awards Subcommittee supported five nominations for the 2026 ATS Respiratory Health Awards, and the Survey Subcommittee gathered member input to guide upcoming

priorities (e.g., webinars, proposal sponsorship, and broader participation across ATS). The ATS Opportunities subcommittee is hosting several webinars this year, including a “Inside the Editorial Office: Peer Review and Editorial Board Training for Early Career Scientists” webinar on **February 10, 2026 at 1pm**, along with a webinar on **June 23, 2026** with NHLBI Program Officers on early career opportunities at the NIH. Additional efforts include releasing a 2026 “Road Map” for basic and translational scientists, ongoing advocacy for parity in membership and conference registration fees, and continued engagement in society-wide programs such as the Networking Super Center and New Faculty Boot Camp. Those interested in learning more about the PhD and Basic and Translational Scientist Working Group can contact the Nursing Assembly working group representative, Kelly Toth ([kelly.potter@pitt.edu](mailto:kelly.potter@pitt.edu)).

### **Reception for PhDs & Other Basic Science Researchers**

**Sunday, May 17th from 3 - 5 p.m.**

**Sunburst Room and Terrace**

**Orange County Convention Center (West Concourse Level III)**

The ATS Science and Innovation Center (SIC) working group and the PhD working group, would like to invite PhDs and other Basic Science Researchers to a special reception event. The reception will provide an intimate setting for networking while also allowing guests to mingle. Cocktails will be provided.

**Register Here: [Reception for PhDs and Other Basic Science Research | Education - Sessions - Session Detail | ATS 2026](#)**

### **Assembly Mentoring Programs’ Meeting Spot**

Struggling to find a quiet location to meet with your mentor? The Assembly Mentoring Programs is offering a meeting spot exclusively for mentors and mentee to meet.

**Hyatt Regency Orlando – Celebration 10**

**Sunday, May 17th – Monday, May 18 from 7 am to 7 pm**

**Please note, this space is exclusively for Mentoring Program participants\***

ATS Contact- Tiana Lino at [tlino@thoracic.org](mailto:tlino@thoracic.org)

## **Oxygen Special Interest Group**

Susan Jacobs, RN, MS, FAAN (Chair)

The ATS Oxygen Special Interest Group (SIG) is a unique multidisciplinary forum initially created in 2015 within the Nursing Assembly to improve the quality of supplemental oxygen services for patients. This group has expanded over the years to include dedicated healthcare professionals, patients, researchers and multiple patient advocacy organization leaders. The group meets monthly to a) target the continuing unmet needs around oxygen education for patients and healthcare professionals, b) identify gaps in research, and c) support advocacy and legislative efforts to change policy that affects supplemental oxygen users.

### **Update on the Oxygen Supplemental Access Reform (SOAR) Act Legislation**

Last year during the 118<sup>th</sup> Congress, the SOAR Act (Supplemental Oxygen Access Reform Act) was introduced with Sponsors in both the Senate (S. 1406) and the House (H.R. 2902). This was the culmination of leadership on the part of ATS Governmental Affairs, ALA (American Lung Association), the AARC (American Association of Respiratory Care), and the PFF (Pulmonary Fibrosis Foundation). The SOAR Act was not included in last year’s package, but it was reintroduced for the 119<sup>th</sup> Congress, and was recently included in a January hearing before the Energy and Commerce Committee. The witness was the CEO of the AAHomecare (American Association for Homecare) who provided background of the

SOAR act and answered questions from committee members. Our ATS Oxygen SIG group members continue efforts to add co-sponsors, plan media campaigns, and organize “Hill Days” to support the SOAR Act.

In addition to the ATS, ALA, PFF and AARC groups, the LAM Foundation (TLF), Pulmonary Hypertension Association (PHA), the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA), the COPD Foundation, the Primary Ciliary Dyskinesia Foundation, CHEST, and physicians, nurses, physical therapists, respiratory therapists and patients have all made invaluable contributions.

Other Activities within the ATS Oxygen SIG:

1. Development of a response to the FAA around their newly implemented restrictions on using Portable Oxygen Concentrator (POC) batteries > 160 watts during airlight; this prevents patients from using many POCs with a ‘double battery’ to supply them enough hours of air travel. Despite the FAA approving the actual POC, some of the batteries are now not FAA approved. This guidance is confusing, varies in implementation by airlines, and has resulted in patients being stranded at airports and/or forced to fly without oxygen resulting in unsafe levels of hypoxemia.

A subgroup of ATS SIG members has had successful conversations with some oxygen device engineers, FAA, and airlines leadership, and hoping have some domestic airlines will document their approval of double battery use on flights.

2. Follow-up on an FDA device group mtg. to improve labeling and communication to consumers around the differences between pulse-dose settings and continuous flow settings on POCs, and also control false advertising for unreliable “nonconcentrators” that some patients purchase off of unregulated online sites.
3. Creation of an ATS Patient Education document to educate patients and clinicians about the different types of portable oxygen concentrators, actual oxygen delivery capacity, and the difference between continuous and pulse flow settings.

Please contact Susan Jacobs RN, MS, FAAN, ATSF at [susanjacobs5@gmail.com](mailto:susanjacobs5@gmail.com) for more information.

## 2026 Respiratory Health Awards NUR Assembly Colleagues - don't miss this!

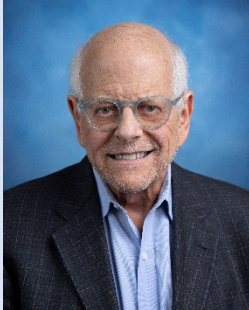
Congratulations to the recipients of the 2026 Respiratory Health Awards! 🎉

**Opening Ceremony** – Saturday, May 16- 4:15 - 5:30 p.m.

Room: Orange County Convention Center - Chapin Theater (Level III - West Concourse)



**J. Randall Curtis Humanism Award – Lynn F. Reinke, PhD, ATSF**



**Don't Miss the 2026 Amberson Lecture - Sunday, May 17- 4:30 - 5:00 p.m.  
Orange County Convention Center - Chapin Theater (Level III - West Concourse)**

**J. Burns Amberson Lecture – Marc Peters-Golden, MD**

**Cyclic AMP vs. Fibrosis: Harnessing Homeostasis and the Power of Pleiotropy**

## Advocacy Sessions

Special Topic Sessions 12-1:15		
Sunday		
Session Code:	Session Title	Speakers
<b>SPS3</b>	Advocating for Clean Air and a Better Climate - ATS Efforts in Environmental Health and What You Can Do	Alison Lee MD MS, Nick Nassikas MD
<b>SPS4</b>	Next Generation MDI Inhalers – Opportunities and Implementation Challenges	Mary Rice MD, William Feldman MD, Jyothi Tirumalasetty MD
<b>SPS5</b>	Coding and Billing Advocacy for ATS members	Dr. Frye, Dr. Ahasic
<b>SPS6</b>	Pediatric Pulmonary Advocacy in Action	Christy Sadreameli, Folashade Afolabi, Anna Volerman Beaser, Angela Metcalf, Devika Rao
MONDAY MAY 18		
<b>SPS11</b>	Preserving the Pathway – Early Career Professionals Road to Research	Siri Vaeth, MSW, Hara Levy, MD, MMSc Andrew Herrin
<b>SPS13</b>	Clearing the Air: Mobilizing Tobacco Advocacy	Anne Melzer, MD, Sven Jordt, PhD,
<b>SPS15</b>	Navigating Health Policy in a Changing Landscape: Coverage, Workforce, and Advocacy	Andrew Herrin, Sharron Crowder, PhD, RN, ATSF, FAAN, Nicholas Kolaitis, MD, MAS, Mary McGowan, Denise Kent, PhD, APRN
<b>SPS16</b>	Florida and its Critical Needs	Michael D. Schweitzer, MD, Amanda Kovacich, William Miller

## Networking Super Center

Networking Super Center - ATS 2026: Learning Studio				
Dates/Times	Sunday, May 17	Monday, May 18	Tuesday, May 19	Wednesday, May 20
7:00 - 8:00 AM	PRDS Ceremony	How to Work with Industry in 2026	From A-to-I & O-to-Omics: An Introductory Field Guide to AI & Omics Research in Lung Diseases	High-Tech, Human-Centered: Practical Strategies for Integrating Ultrasound, AI, and Digital Tools Without Losing the Patient
9:00 AM - 10:00 AM	Teaching in the ICU @ Night	Getting Engaged in Clinical Trials: Pathways and Strategies for Budding Trialists	From Science to Storytelling: How to Use Narratives to Advocate for Change	Widen Your Net, Broaden Your Path: Networking and Portfolio Building for Early Career Scientists
10:00- 11:00 AM	Conducting High-Impact Pulmonary Research in Low- and Middle-Income Countries	Elevator Speech Workshop: Sharpening Your Professional Identity	Diagnosing and Addressing Learning Disabilities in Trainees	Models and Techniques to Map the Influence of Extracellular Matrix Across the Lung
11:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Advocacy Roadmap: A Path to Career and Advocacy integration	AJRCCM, AJRCMB, AnnalsATS, ATS Scholar Combined Journal Talks Journal editors	Legislation, Implementation, Outcomes, and the Path to 50 States: Stock Albuterol Policies	Reliable Lung Sounds: Practical AI at the Point of Care
12:00 - 1:00 PM	Navigating Prior Authorization Challenges and Finding Solutions	Breathe Easy: The Scope of Pediatric Pulmonary Fellowship Training in the United States	Finding Your Team: Networking Across Disciplines for Stronger Science	Survive, Then Thrive: Innovations in Post-ICU Recovery with Team-Based Care
1:00-2:00 PM	Strategies for Success in Leadership	Strategies for Patient Engagement in Research & Clinical Care: PAR Expertise and Support	Who I Am Matters: The Impact of Intersecting Identities on Workforce, Research, and Health Outcomes	
2:00 - 3:00 PM	Resources from the NIGMS Sepsis Human Biospecimens Program	Optimizing Individual Learning in the Multi-Disciplinary ICU: Building Skills & Gaining Competencies	From Labs to Lungs: Translating Respiratory Science for Impact	
3:00 - 4:00 PM	Physician Wellbeing 2.0 (Beyond the Warm and Fuzzy Hour)	Navigating the Early Career: Expert Panel Discussion of Career Development, Mentoring, and Networking	Academic Career as an International Medical Graduate (IMG)	
4:00 - 5:00 PM	Storytelling Series	Storytelling Series	Storytelling Series	
<b>Networking Events:</b> PhD Reception (3-5 p.m.) TEACH (4-5 p.m.) IMG Reception (4-5 p.m.)				

# Assembly Giving Is Live!

A link for Assembly Giving can be found on each Assembly home page.



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Dedicate this donation (optional)

Give once  Monthly

\$1,000 \$500 \$250

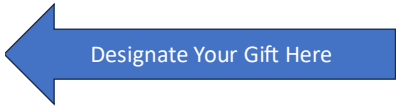
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\$350 USD

Designation  
NUR Assembly Awards and Scholarship...

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NUR Assembly Designations:  
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Each page has a link to give to the ATS Research Program.

### ATS & CAPC CME Learning Series on ATS Ed+ for Clinicians

The ATS and the Center to Advance Palliative Care (CAPC) have partnered up to launch a CME-certified comprehensive [learning series of seven courses on ATS Ed+](#). In the last three months of life, only about 20% of patients with COPD are referred to palliative care services—compared to approximately 60% of patients with cancer.

**Free to ATS and CAPC members\***, this practical curriculum empowers pulmonary clinicians to relieve complex symptoms, lead confident goals-of-care conversations, and deliver care that truly aligns with what matters most to patients and families. Each module builds on the last to equip clinicians with a clear path and tools to support patients with advanced respiratory illness.



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— Raed Dweik, MD, MBA, ATSF, ATS President



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Enroll to enter a drawing and  
a chance to **WIN BIG!**

**FIRST PRIZE**  
FREE VIP experience at  
ATS 2027, New Orleans

**SECOND PRIZE**  
Series 11 Apple Watch



# Step into the future at the AI Lab

Visit the **ATS 2026 AI Lab Exposition Space** — a dedicated innovation site inside the Exhibit Hall.

Experience curated sessions from the **ATS AI Taskforce** and **hands-on engagement** with industry leaders.

